

House Bill 541 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Epps of the 140th, Benton of the 31st, Baker of the 78th, Allison of the 8th,
Weldon of the 3rd, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 16-10-97 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 intimidation or injury of grand or trial juror or court officer, so as to prohibit intimidation of
3 law enforcement officers in retaliation for the officer's actions of carrying out his or her
4 official duties; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
5 purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 16-10-97 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to intimidation
9 or injury of grand or trial juror or court officer, is amended by revising subsection (a) as
10 follows:

11 "(a) A person who by threat or force or by any threatening action, letter, or
12 communication:

13 (1) Endeavors to intimidate or impede any grand juror or trial juror or any officer in or
14 of any court of this state or any court of any county or municipality of this state or any
15 officer who may be serving at any proceeding in any such court while in the discharge
16 of such juror's or officer's duties;

17 (2) Endeavors to intimidate or impede any law enforcement officer or his or her
18 immediate family member in retaliation or response to the discharge of such officer's
19 official duties;

20 ~~(2)~~(3) Injures any grand juror or trial juror in his or her person or property on account of
21 any indictment or verdict assented to by him or her or on account of his or her being or
22 having been such juror; or

23 ~~(3)~~(4) Injures any officer in or of any court of this state or any court of any county or
24 municipality of this state or any officer who may be serving at any proceeding in any
25 such court in his or her person or property on account of the performance of his or her
26 official duties

27 shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not more than \$5,000.00 or by
28 imprisonment for not more than 20 years, or both."

29 **SECTION 2.**

30 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.